



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Giorgio PAGANI, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/285,649

Confirmation No.:

Group Art Unit: 1764

Filed: April 5, 1999

Examiner: OHORODNIK, S.

For: PROCESS AND PLANT FOR THE PRODUCTION OF UREA WITH HIGH
CONVERSION YIELD AND LOW ENERGY CONSUMPTION

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed September 27, 2000.

REMARKS

Claims 7-15 are all the claims pending in the present application.

Referring to pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action, Claims 7-9, 11-13 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,334,096 to Konoki et al.

In particular, the Examiner asserts that:

With respect to claims 7 and 11, Konoki discloses a plant (Figs. 1 and 2) comprised of a urea synthesis reactor (2); a first stripping unit (3) connected to the reactor; a means for condensing the vapors from the stripper (4, 12) and recycling the solution back to the reactor (8); a recovery section after the first stripper for separating the urea from a carbamate solution (the section is made of elements 6, 17 and 20); a second stripper (6 or 17); and means for condensing the vapors from the second stripper (4, 12). The only difference between Konoki and the instant invention is that Konoki uses different terminology for describing the strippers